**Vail Valley Voices: Kids spur evolution**

Based on your group’s ideas and conclusion formed after reading this article answer the following questions.

Figuring out whether a piece of information is considered a fact or an opinion is usually pretty obvious. Facts can be proven and opinions are thoughts or ideas that cannot be proved. It gets tricky when an expert in a field gives his or her opinion. This is called an expert opinion.

**Expert Opinion:** the opinion of an expert or someone who knows a lot about a certain topic/subject.

**Opinion:** a view or judgment formed about something, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge.

An expert opinion comes from research and a large amount of knowledge whereas an opinion maybe formed from very little background information.

Expert opinions can be considered in research as a valuable opinion. However, general opinions should not be valued as highly in most cases.

Think about in terms of a phone call to a radio station, anyone can call in and the audience/listeners do not know what background of information that person has on the topic. If, you asked a doctor what you should do to avoid the flu his or her advice would be an expert opinion that you may want to consider. If I gave you advice on staying well it would just be an opinion because I do not have formal training in any medical field. Make sense? Let’s try it out!

Is Bill Marolt giving his opinion or expert opinion?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What evidence can you pull from the text that supports your answer? Give 3 examples.

1.

2.

3.

What is Bill Marolt’s opinion?

Why might you use an expert opinion in a research project?